



Social
Interest
Group

Penrose

Penrose Bermondsey

Independent Approved Premises

24-hr Accommodation and Support Service

Out of prison,
Out of hospital,
Off the streets.





Introduction

I am delighted to introduce Penrose Bermondsey, our third Independent Approved Premises, which opened in June 2026. This important milestone reflects the continued growth of our criminal justice services and our commitment to a modern, compassionate and rehabilitative approach. At Penrose Bermondsey, public protection is balanced with practical support that enables people to build stability, take responsibility, and make lasting, positive change.

At SIG Penrose, we believe that everyone deserves the opportunity to rebuild their life. Our work goes beyond managing risk. We help individuals find stability, rediscover their sense of purpose, and realise their potential.

Through our partnership with the Ministry of Justice, we are committed to delivering high-quality, innovative services that create meaningful and lasting outcomes for the people we support and the communities around them.

Penrose Bermondsey builds on the success of our established services, Penrose Drive in Elephant & Castle and Penrose Havering in Romford. It marks an important milestone in the continued growth and development of our criminal justice services.

Each year, we support hundreds of people on probation, providing safe, structured environments where they can reflect, develop new skills, and move forward with confidence.

The opening of Penrose Bermondsey allows us to support more people at a crucial point in their journey towards greater stability and independence.

As an established provider of Independent Approved Premises, Penrose is proud of its strong network of local partners. By continuing to develop these relationships, we connect residents with specialist support, community resources and opportunities that strengthen their recovery, rehabilitation and successful resettlement.

The Bermondsey team has made an exceptional start, with consistently strong performance from day one. Our approach is built on collaboration, with teams working together to deliver consistent, compassionate and person-centred support that responds to each individual's needs.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Penrose Bermondsey. We are proud of the difference the service is already making and remain committed to listening, learning, and improving.

We welcome your feedback, ideas, and opportunities to work together.

Eva Katsani
Head of Criminal Justice Services
Social Interest Group

About us

Who we are

SIG Penrose is a subsidiary of Social Interest Group (SIG), a leading UK charity providing bespoke person-centred health and social care services. SIG is a specialist in supporting people with the most complex challenges and multiple disadvantages, often from chaotic backgrounds.

What drives us

Our success is due to our collaborative approach to service delivery. We work with carers, professionals, local communities and commissioners.

Mission

Our mission is to empower independence through trauma-informed solutions and dynamic partnerships that keep people out of prison, out of hospital, and off the streets.

Vision

A transparent, caring world in which people have equity of access to a good home, health care, social support, and employment.

Values



Ambition

Eager to succeed and accomplish as much as possible for our people.



Empowerment

Giving staff and the people we support the tools, training, and information needed to achieve their potential.



Transparency

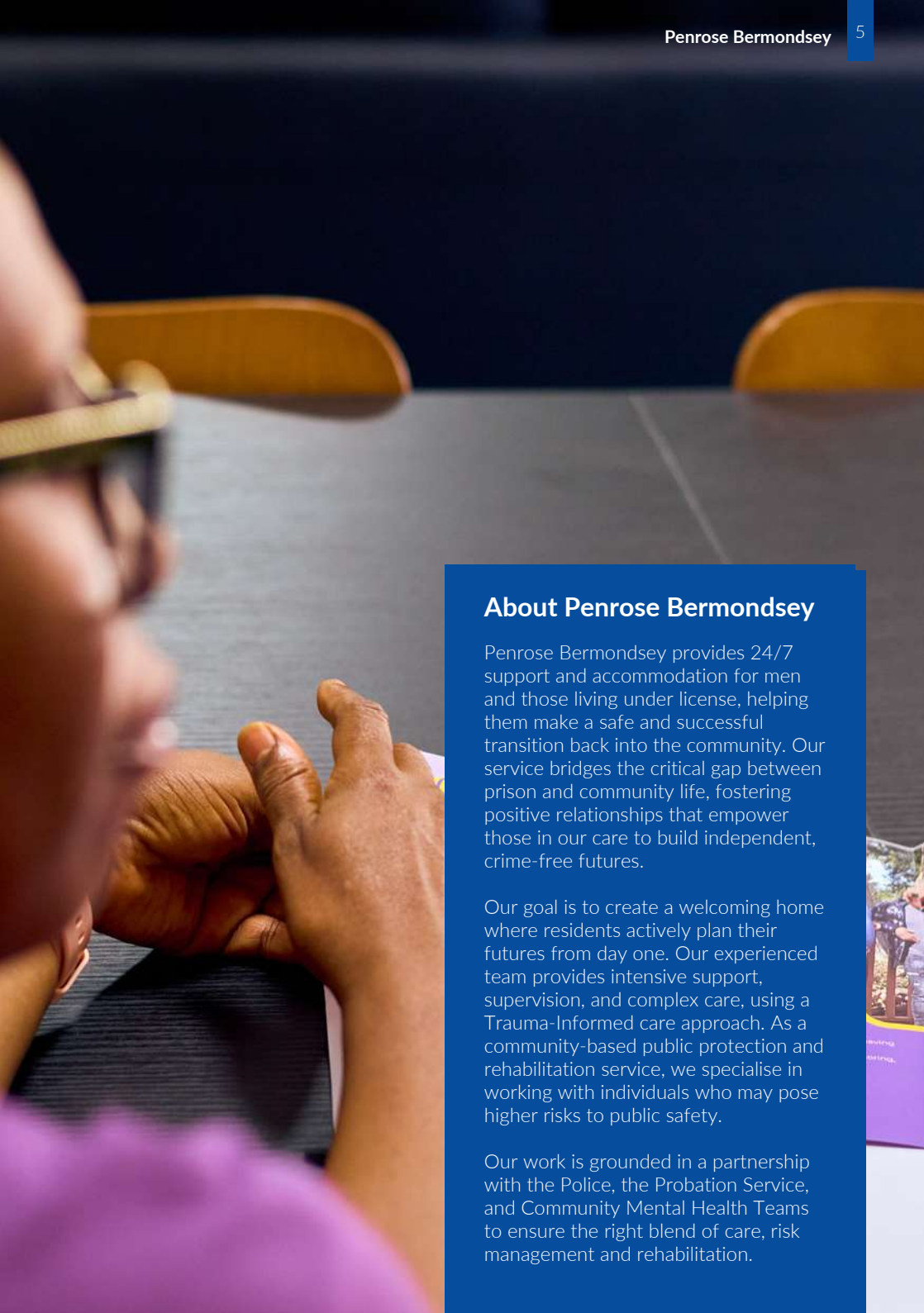
Upfront and visible about our actions and open to scrutiny.



Inclusivity

Listening to, understanding, and including all stakeholders to ensure we make a difference and get things right.





About Penrose Bermondsey

Penrose Bermondsey provides 24/7 support and accommodation for men and those living under license, helping them make a safe and successful transition back into the community. Our service bridges the critical gap between prison and community life, fostering positive relationships that empower those in our care to build independent, crime-free futures.

Our goal is to create a welcoming home where residents actively plan their futures from day one. Our experienced team provides intensive support, supervision, and complex care, using a Trauma-Informed care approach. As a community-based public protection and rehabilitation service, we specialise in working with individuals who may pose higher risks to public safety.

Our work is grounded in a partnership with the Police, the Probation Service, and Community Mental Health Teams to ensure the right blend of care, risk management and rehabilitation.



Approach

Theory of Change

Our Theory of Change guides our work. We adopt a strengths-based approach to enable positive identity formation and support individuals in viewing themselves through the lens of their ambitions and potential, rather than focusing on negative past experiences and stigma.



Identity

Reframing identity and mindset based on strengths and aspirations, not stigmatising labels.



Relationships

Developing skills to build, maintain and trust positive, healthy relationships.



Community

Empowering through a stake in society, and a sense of purpose and belonging.

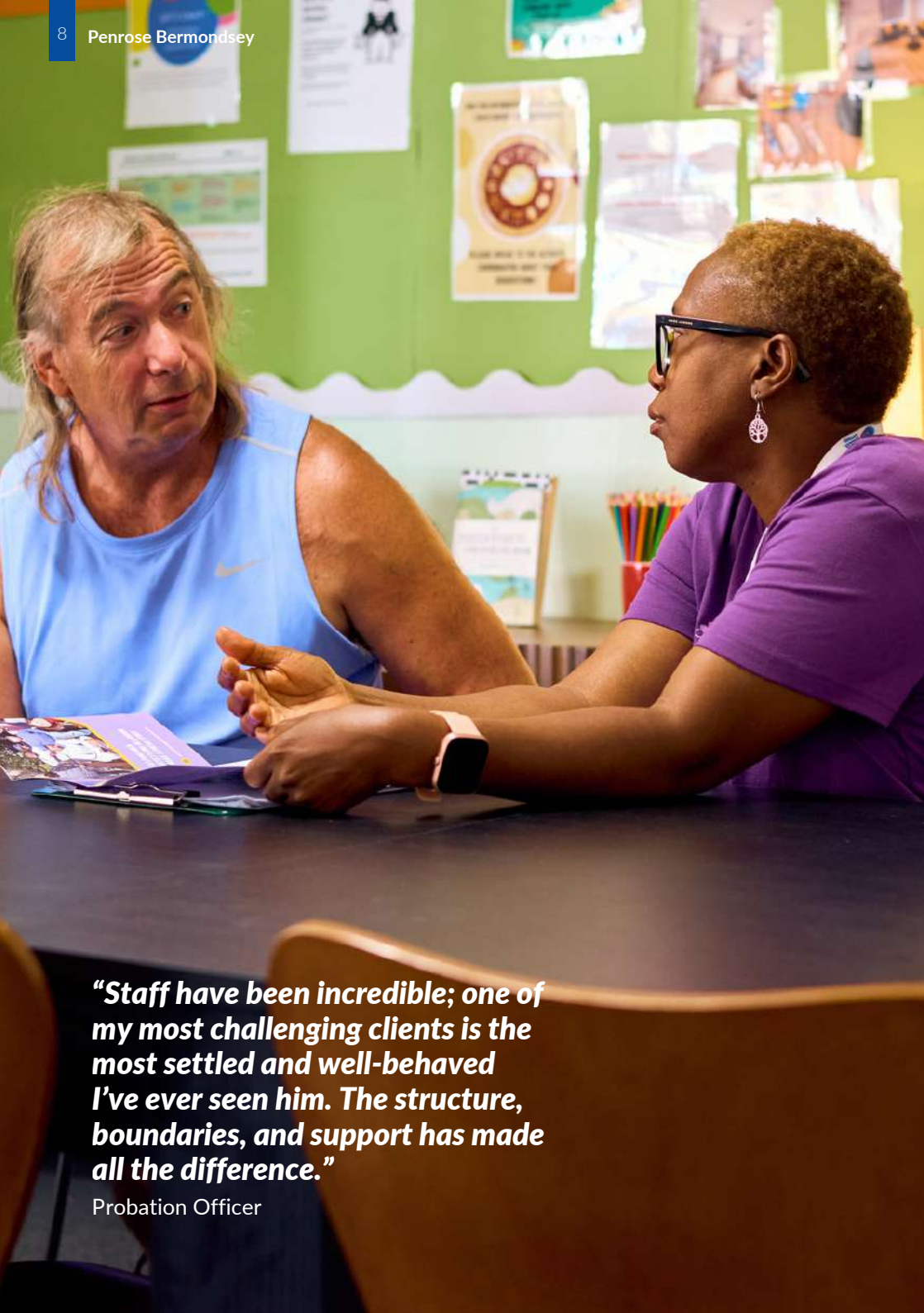
Public Protection: Protecting the community is at the heart of our mission. Penrose Bermondsey provides a structured and supervised environment in which individuals can be closely monitored and supported while accessing interventions designed to mitigate their risk of self-harm or harm to others. This setting enables intensive supervision, adherence to specific conditions, and rapid response to breaches, thereby reducing the likelihood of harm and ensuring public safety.

Coaching & Mentoring: Our Support Coaches provide weekly one-on-one sessions to help residents stay accountable and advance through their move-on plan.

Housing Support: Our Housing Lead supports residents with resettlement and the skills they need to sustain their tenancy.

Rehabilitative Activities: Our structured programmes address the *Pathways to Reducing Reoffending* while meeting Social Value Criteria. Residents participate in at least six hours of weekly activities focused on improving health and well-being, enhancing community integration, and reducing economic inequality.

Psychological Provision & Research: Our Psychologically Informed Approach to practice ensures that we reflect on our actions and how we can be more effective. We utilise reflective practice and clinical supervision to learn and grow, and our work is based on our research, led by a Forensic Psychologist and supported by a Data Performance and Monitoring Officer.



“Staff have been incredible; one of my most challenging clients is the most settled and well-behaved I’ve ever seen him. The structure, boundaries, and support has made all the difference.”

Probation Officer

Activities



Identity

Assists participants in identifying and collecting information about themselves, recording thoughts, feelings, and learning points gathered during their lives, and creating a personal, focused, and informed Action Plan for the future.



Relationships

Allows participants to reflect, acknowledge and proactively plan their well-being through personal growth and relationships, recognising areas needing attention. The toolkit identifies the differences between criticism and negative and positive feedback, and encourages participants to prioritise their well-being and development.



Community

Supports participants in understanding the importance of financial autonomy, enabling them to feel more confident about independent living in the community. Guidance includes budgeting, borrowing, credit scores, and decision-making related to financial management.



Programmes

We engage people living in the AP in a comprehensive schedule of interactive, rehabilitative activities, including areas of interest, to help prepare them to resettle back into the community and improve their self-confidence and resilience.

We collaborate with Probation practitioners and people on probation to identify support needs and sentence-plan objectives, and offer interventions that meet these goals. A coaching approach underpins our Key Worker sessions.

We use group and individual activities to discuss opportunities and challenges while fostering accountability and a sense of purpose. We empower staff and residents to take ownership of their development and share their skills by delivering groups for others and reaching out to external organisations.

We also provide a daily schedule of structured and unstructured one-on-one and group rehabilitative activities that are adapted and modified.

SIG Safe Ground

We collaborate with SIG Safe Ground, delivering arts-based, therapeutically informed programmes that support people in reflecting, recovering, and building the skills needed for lasting change. Our work creates spaces for honest conversation, experiential learning and connection, helping men strengthen their sense of self, their relationships, and their place in the world.



Man Up?

At the heart of our offer is Man Up?, a **National Framework Intervention (NFI) approved programme** that uses creativity, discussion, and experiential learning to explore masculinity, identity, power, and behaviour.

**“YOU CAN’T ENFORCE
REHABILITATION IF YOU’VE
NEVER BEEN SHOWN HOW
TO LIVE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
SIG SAFE GROUND SUPPORT
PEOPLE TO REALLY LIVE FOR
THE FIRST TIME”**

Rather than telling men how to think or act, Man Up? invites participants to question the messages they’ve inherited about being a man, how these show up in their lives, and what they want to carry forward.

Sessions combine arts-based exercises, group dialogue, reflective writing and practical tools to support emotional regulation, communication and accountability. Men are encouraged to listen, challenge each other respectfully, and develop insight into how their actions impact themselves and others.

SIG Safe Ground’s approach is ***anti-shame and non-punitive***. We believe that meaningful change happens when people feel safe enough to be honest, curious and vulnerable.

Through Man Up?, participants build confidence, resilience and peer support, while developing the emotional and relational skills that underpin desistance, healthier relationships and successful reintegration.



Impact Stories

Brian's Journey

Before entering custody, "Brian" had experienced homelessness for years and developed a dependence on drugs and alcohol. He distrusted criminal justice professionals and had left previous Approved Premises placements within 24 hours. At Penrose Bermondsey, Brian's keyworker used a trauma-informed approach to build trust, giving him the consistency he needed to engage. As trust developed, Brian accepted a referral to Change Grow Live, where he received medication and one-to-one support for substance use. Despite early setbacks, he remained determined to make a change. As Brian settled into the service, he began participating in gardening, mindfulness sessions and Breakfast Club. These activities helped him establish a positive daily routine for the first time in his adult life and gave him opportunities to contribute to the community.

Drawing on his own experiences, Brian helped staff lead a support group for residents affected by substance use. By sharing his journey and supporting others, he gained confidence, purpose and a stronger sense of belonging. Staff saw a significant change in Brian. Initially agitated and distrustful, he became curious, energetic and increasingly open to support. He also showed greater resilience in managing setbacks. By the end of his placement, Brian had been substance-free for six weeks and was preparing to move into supported accommodation. For the first time in his life, he had a stable routine, a supportive community and the confidence to look ahead with hope.

Jamal's Journey

When "Jamal" arrived, he found it difficult to adjust. He came into conflict with other residents, challenged staff and often left Probation meetings early. Staff recognised that Jamal was neurodivergent and that his experiences growing up in care had shaped a complex relationship with professionals and institutions. Rather than viewing his behaviour as defiance, the team explored ways to make meetings more accessible. Adjustments included meeting outdoors and providing fidget toys to help him remain focused and comfortable. Jamal responded positively and participated fully in meetings. He wrote a card to staff apologising for his earlier behaviour and thanking them for not giving up on him.

Staff also worked closely with Jamal's Personal Adviser to secure additional support, including funding for clothing and household essentials. This helped Jamal see his future as something positive, rather than a continuing cycle of crime and institutions. Determined to become more independent, Jamal bought a cookbook and asked his keyworker to teach him basic cooking skills. They cooked together, and his confidence grew with every new dish. Recognising Jamal's experience of frequent moves, staff marked his departure with a card signed by the whole team. Once settled in his new home, Jamal sent a photograph of the card displayed on his wall, a powerful reminder that he had left feeling valued, supported and ready for his next chapter.



Get in touch

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Social Interest Group (SIG) is a leading UK charity providing bespoke person-centred health and social care services through SIG Penrose, SIG Equinox, SIG Pathways to Independence, SIG Safe Ground, SIG Housing Trust and SIG Milner Gibson.

We believe good care, support and well-planned services make a difference and improve lives. We work to high standards in line with external and internal regulatory frameworks.



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www.socialinterestgroup.org.uk

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HM Prison &
Probation Service